Message Text

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CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII 1059

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CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

TOKYO FOR RFA, CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PP, XU

SUBJECT:PNG DESIRE FOR BILATERAL FISHING AGREEMENT CINCPACREP GUAM PASS LNO REF: A. PORT MORESBY 1275, B. PORT MORESBY 1252 C. STATE 175327, D. OLMSTED/BUSBY TELCON

1. DEPT APPRECIATES EMBASSY REPORTING ON QUESTION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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BILATERAL FISHING AGREEMENT AND CONCURS IN YOUR REACTION TO GPNG OFFICIALS. PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT THAT THERE APPEAR TO REMAIN DIFFERING PERCEPTIONS WITHIN GPNG, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE TO SET FORTH U.S. POSITION ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS REGARDING HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ON BASIS OF RECENT DIPLOMATIC NOTE AND LINE YOU TOOK WITH OLEWALE. BASIC POINT REMAINS THAT U.S. IS

NOT IN POSITION TO NEGOTIATE BILATERAL GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT WITH GPNG FOR ACCESS TO PNG ZONE FOR U.S. TUNA VESSELS, BUT THAT U.S. DOES NOT AS A POLICY MATTER OPPOSE U.S. TUNA VESSELS PURCHASING FOREIGN LICENSES. (SEE REF C).

- 2. WE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS SPRFO AND RELATED ISSUES WITH GPNG DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES WILSON, WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS, AND WILL REPORT SUCH LIGHT AS THAT MEETING MAY SHED ON THE SUBJECT.
- 3. WITH REGARD TO POINTS RAISED IN PARAGRAPH 5 OF REF
 (A) GPNG WILL IN FINAL ANALYSIS HAVE TO JUDGE HOW FULLY
 ITS POSITION IS PROTECTED BY DRAFT SPRFO. HOWEVER, IT
 IS OUR VIEW THAT THE DRAFT FULLY MEETS CONCERNS EXPRESSED
 BY GPNG BOTH IN THE SUVA NEGOTIATIONS AND ELSEWHERE.
 ARTICLE VII, INCLUDING SUBPARAGRAPHS (C) AND (D) OF
 PARAGRAPH 1 RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR REGIONAL MANAGEMENT
 TO ENSURE THE PROPER CONSERVATION AND UTILIZATION OF
 LIVING RESOURCES IN THE CONVENTION AREA (SPECIFICALLY
 THE HIGHLY MIGRATORY RESOURCES). PNG WOULD BE BOUND
 TO OBSERVE RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
 ARTICLE VII, ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE IN ACCORDANCE
 WITH ARTICLE V AND BROUGHT INTO FORCE IN ACCORDANCE

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- 4. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT PNG'S POSITION ON HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES IS FULLY ACCOMMODATED IN THE CONVENTION. ITS JURIDICAL VIEWS ARE PROTECTED IN ARTICLES I AND II. IN ADDITION, PRACTICAL PROTECTION OF ITS POSITION IS PROVIDED IN THE DECISION-MAKING ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION: ARTICLE V PROVIDES FOR CONFERENCE DECISIONS BY CONSENSUS AND ARTICLE VIII PROVIDES FOR AN OBJECTION PROCEDURE. THEREFORE, PNG COULD NOT BE BOUND BY ANY RECOMMENDATION WITHOUT ITS CONSENT, INCLUDING A RECOMMENDATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII.1(D).
- 5. WITH SPECIFIC REGARD TO LICENSING, UNDER THE SPRFO THE GPNG COULD REQUIRE VESSELS FISHING IN THE ZONE TO OBTAIN LICENSES. THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THOSE LICENSES WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THE SPRFO. ARTICLE VII.1(D) DOES PROVIDE FOR FACILITATION OF A REGIONAL LICENSING SCHEME. SUCH SCHEME, HOWEVER, IS TO BE "WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THE SOVERIEGN RIGHTS OF COASTAL COUNTRIES", AND COULD NOT BE INSTITUTED WITHOUT CONSENT OF GPNG. VANCE

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